

# THE ENTERPRISE.

WELLINGTON, OHIO.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gathered from All Quarters.

### CONGRESS.

**Senate, Dec. 12.**—Whether Admiral Dewey, acting for the United States government, recognized the Philippine republic at Manila, is a question which Mr. Pettigrew, of South Dakota, desires the navy department to answer. He introduced a resolution directing the secretary of the navy to supply the senate with information on the subject, but Mr. Chandler objected to its immediate consideration.

**House.**—There is such a great pressure for time on the part of the members of both sides who desire to participate in the currency debate that three night sessions were ordered. The features of the debate on the 12th were the speeches of Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, for the bill, and Mr. Cochran, of Missouri, and Mr. Newlands, of Nevada, against it.

**Senate, Dec. 13.**—Only routine business was transacted and the session was very short.

**House.**—The debate on the currency bill lasted from 11 a. m. until 10:30 p. m., with a recess of three hours for supper. There were no exciting incidents. A resolution for a holiday recess from December 20 to January 3 was adopted.

**Senate, Dec. 14.**—The Pettigrew resolution of inquiry as to whether or not United States forces had recognized the Filipino flag and had turned over Spanish soldiers to the insurgents was laid on the table. The house Christmas recess resolution was agreed to.

**House.**—The debate on the currency bill was tame and prosaic. Mr. Thayer, a Massachusetts democrat, was the only member of the opposition who made a speech for the bill.

**Senate, Dec. 15.**—The appointments to the commission on the various committees were announced. No other important business was transacted and the senate adjourned until the 16th.

**House.**—There was a sharp personal colloquy between Messrs. Wheeler and Berry, of Kentucky, over the recent election in that state. Debate on the currency bill occupied the remainder of the day's session.

**House, Dec. 16.**—The six days' debate on the currency bill closed in a sensational manner. Mr. Grosvenor, Mr. Dabzell and Mr. Doolittle called attention to the fact that in the debate little had been heard about free coinage of silver. Mr. Dabzell challenged any democrat to offer a free coinage amendment. In response half the democrat membership rose and demanded the privilege. Then Mr. Briggs and Mr. Levy, two New York democrats, blocked the game by objecting.

**Senate.**—The senate was not in session.

### WASHINGTON.

There was an increase of \$12,578,412 in the imports of merchandise into the United States during the past 11 months and an increase of \$4,944,793 in the exports of merchandise.

Notice is given by the navy department that any person claiming the remains of any of the victims of the Maine explosion before the Texas arrives at Hampton Roads with the bodies from Havana, which will be in about 15 days, may have them sent to their late homes for burial at the expense of the department.

The statistician of the department of agriculture reports the wheat crop of the United States for 1909 at 547,300,000 bushels, or 12.3 bushels per acre.

Officials of the war department have arranged to send about 1,000 recruits to Manila to fill the regiments which are running short on account of death, disease and discharge.

President McKinley has commuted to imprisonment for 10 years the capital sentences imposed by court-martial upon four American soldiers, members of a Washington regiment in the Philippines, for criminal assault upon native women.

### EAST.

Duncan N. Hood, a graduate of West Point, has cast his fortunes with the South African republic and has enlisted in the Boer army. Young Hood is a son of the famous Gen. Hood, of the Confederate army. He was colonel of a southern regiment known as "Hood's Invincibles" during the war with Spain.

Early on the morning of the 17th an attempt was made by four men to rob the First National bank at Deep River, Conn. The watchman shot and killed one of the men, blowing the top of his head off. The other three men escaped.

Rev. Warren Randolph, pastor of the Central Baptist church of Newport, R. I., formerly pastor of the First Baptist church of Indianapolis and a clergyman of national reputation among Baptists, is dead, aged 84 years.

The British steamer *Sulphur*, from Philadelphia, November 28, for Havana, has been pined at Elipio in missing. The *Sulphur* was a steel vessel of 2,800 tons and has never been heard of since she sailed.

Rev. W. F. Rogers, who was extensively suffered, compiler and author of *Buttlin's*, N. Y., died in that city on the 17th, aged 79 years. Mr. Rogers was a volunteer officer in the civil war and was governor of the state general home at Bath, N. Y.

A movement has been started by the members of the Philadelphia editorial committee, whose efforts resulted in the selection of that city for the national republican convention, to have the republican national committee make Philadelphia its headquarters.

An assignment has been made by Francis B. Schuchter & Co., of Boston, dealers in liquors and provisions. The direct liabilities are about \$200,000, with nominal assets in excess of that sum.

The collapse of the \$2,000 Lafayette dollar at the Philadelphia mint for the Lafayette memorial commission has been completed.

During the past few days thousands of loyal Britons have been calling at the British consulate in New York City to tender their services to their mother country in struggle with the Boers, but their services could not be accepted.

### WEST AND SOUTH.

The United Mine Workers of Alabama have declared an open war on the Knights of Labor. The miners charge the knights with taking the places of strikers in that district.

An advance of 50 cents over present prices on all classes of furniture was made at the semi-annual meeting of the National Association of Chamber and Case Work Manufacturers, held in Chicago. This advance will take effect January 1.

At Chicago on the 15th, while a score or more of persons stood helplessly on the street, Mrs. Palmer, a stenographer living at No. 91 Hubbard court, succumbed to heat and smoke and was burned to death.

A decision has been rendered by the Iowa supreme court to the effect that a church subscription made on Sunday is collectable.

On the 15th the will of the late W. G. Saunders was filed for probate at Mt. Pleasant, Ia. The estate amounts to about \$400,000. He was a widower and left no children. Two-thirds of his estate he divided up among about 200 relatives and friends scattered all over the country. Every one who had been kind to him or his deceased wife will get a check for \$500 or \$1,000.

Bumps, the fastest roadster in the world, the property of C. K. G. Billings, of Chicago, died at Memphis, Tenn., on the 16th. Billings paid \$5,000 for Bumps a year ago. He had a wagon record of 2:35 1/2.

Arrangements are being made for the installation of wireless telegraphy in connection with the steamship lines plying daily between Chicago and Milwaukee. This installation will probably be done in the early part of the summer season and land stations will be set up at Chicago, Kenosha, Waukegan, Racine and Milwaukee.

The officer in charge of the United States naval recruiting station in Chicago, has been ordered to enlist an unlimited number of landmen. The navy department wants 5,000 recruits immediately to prepare for service on the battleships and cruisers being constructed.

### FOREIGN.

Xmas Day, the distinguished Swiss statesman and former president of the confederation, died at Berne on the 15th, in his 90th year.

In France a gigantic undertaking for tunneling the Straits of Gibraltar is receiving attention. M. Jean Berlier, the famous civil engineer who is the author of the project, has just published the result of his studies in connection with it. He considers that an inter-continental tunnel, uniting Spain and Morocco, prolonged by a railway from Tangiers to Lalla Maghnia, would prove valuable for the successful development of France's African colonies.

Because of the high price of bread much distress prevails in Persia. The situation is growing worse every day and the prospects are that the poor will be face to face with starvation during the entire winter.

A terrible malady is widely prevalent among the American officers and men in the Philippines. The first stage of the disease is dysentery, which becomes chronic. Then nerve paralysis sets in and some are crippled for life.

### LATER.

In the senate on the 14th two resolutions—one by Mr. Tillman and the other by Mr. Bacon—were introduced in opposition to the retention of control over the Philippines by the United States. Mr. Morgan made a speech in advocacy of legislation to control troops. By a vote of 190 to 150 the house passed the currency bill. All the republicans and 11 democrats voted for the bill. Mr. Henderson announced the committee.

While a gang of section laborers were unloading a car of steel rails on the Yano & Mississippi Valley road near Anding, Ia., the car overturned, instantly killing two men and seriously injuring seven others, two of whom may die.

The British government has accepted the offer of the Dominion government to send a second contingent to Transvaal. The contingent will likely be largely made up of cavalry and artillery.

The Australian mounted contingent of 1,000 men will sail for South Africa before January 15. An additional New South Wales battery of artillery is to sail immediately.

Three persons were burned and a fourth injured by jumping from a second-story window in a tenement house fire at Hoboken, N. J., on the 15th, which gutted the building.

W. H. Lee, one of the best known hotel men in the country, was found dead in bed at his residence in New York City on the 15th. Death had probably been caused by apoplexy.

An Air Line road engine and a Pennsylvania suburban train, collided in New Albany, Ind., on the 15th. The Pennsylvania train consisted of an engine and two coaches. It had 150 passengers. One of the coaches was struck in the center and thrown over on one side, knocked off the tracks and badly demolished. Several passengers were injured.

An advance of 20 per cent. in wages went into effect on the 15th in many of the cotton manufacturing cities of New England. This increase affects from 7,000 to 10,000 persons.

Hong Kong officials state that another Franco-Chinese war is imminent over the delimitation of French "leased" territory at Kwang-Chow-hay, on the Tonkin border. This dispute is of several months' standing, the French having demanded twice the amount of territory which China is willing to cede under France's original demand for an open port.

Death of a Noted Shot.

Beloit, Wis., Dec. 16.—John A. Rubie, famous as a trap and wing shot, who has participated in all great shotgun contests of the country, died Friday.

### BOERS WIN AGAIN.

British Forces Under Gen. Buller Meet Serious Reverse Near Colenso—Eleven Guns Are Lost.

London, Dec. 16.—The war office has received a dispatch announcing that Gen. Buller has met with a serious reverse. Gen. Buller was attempting to cross the Tugela river. Finding it impossible to effect his object, he ordered a retirement in order to avoid greater losses. He left 11 guns behind. The following is the text of Gen. Buller's dispatch announcing his reverse:

"Buller to Lansdowne: Chieveley Camp, Dec. 15—1 regret to report a serious reverse. I moved in full strength from our camp near Chieveley at four o'clock this morning. There are two formidable rivers in the Tugela river, and it was my intention to force a passage through at one of them. They are about six miles apart. My intention was to force one or the other with one brigade, supported by a central brigade. Gen. Hart was to attack the left drift, Gen. Hildyard, the right road, and Gen. Lytton was to take the center and to support either. Early in the day I saw that Gen. Hart would not be able to force a passage, and I directed him to withdraw. He had, however, attacked with great gallantry, and his leading battalion, the Comancha rangers, I fear, suffered a great deal. Col. I. G. Brooks was seriously wounded. I then ordered Gen. Hildyard to advance, which he did, and his leading regiment, the East Surrey, occupied Colenso station and the houses near the bridge. At that moment I heard that the whole artillery had sent to support the attack—the Fourteenth and Sixty-sixth field batteries and six naval 12-pound quickfiring, under Col. Long, had advanced close to the river. In Long's desire to be within effective range, it proved to be the fall of the enemy, who suddenly opened a galling fire at close range, killing all their horses, and the guns were compelled to stand to their guns. Some of the wagon teams got shelter for troops in a ditch, and desperate efforts were being made to bring out the field guns. The fire, however, was too severe, and only two were saved by Capt. Schofield and some drivers whose names I will mention. Another most gallant attempt with three teams made by an officer whose name I will mention.

"Of the 13 horses 12 were killed, and several drivers were wounded. I would not allow another attempt, as it would have been a waste of time, and it would have been a gallant attempt to force the passage. Unopposed by artillery, I directed the troops to withdraw, which they did, in good order.

"Throughout the day a considerable force of the enemy was pressing on my right flank, but was kept back by mounted men under Lord Dundonald and part of Gen. Buller's brigade. The day was intensely hot and most trying on the troops, whose conduct was excellent. We have abandoned ten guns and lost by shell five or six. The losses in Gen. Hart's brigade, I fear, are heavy, although the proportion of severely wounded, I hope, is not large. The Fourteenth and Sixty-sixth field batteries also suffered severely. We have retired to our camp at Chieveley.

London, Dec. 16.—The news of Gen. Buller's reverse was received so late that morning newspaper comment is confined to perfunctory expressions of extreme regret and disappointment and of the necessity of calmness and redoubled efforts to retrieve the position. The latest check is regarded as the most serious event in Great Britain's military history since the Indian mutiny. The Standard says the Boer "commandants have shown themselves able to give our generals useful but expensive lessons in modern tactics."

No independent reports of the engagement have yet been allowed to come through, but Gen. Buller's own dispatch tells the sad tale in sufficient outline to show that the British have been entrapped again by the astute Boers. It was not anticipated that Gen. Buller would make a frontal attack. No criticisms of his movements are made, however, since apparently he suffered a repulse rather than a defeat, and did not push the attack home, but broke it off in the middle so as to save a useless sacrifice of life. It is expected that he will renew the attack shortly.

Immediately on receiving the news, the war office decided to mobilize still another division, and to replace the losses of artillery. The necessary reinforcements will be hurried off as speedily as possible. Fifteen transports are due to arrive at Cape Town between December 17 and January 8, with about 15,000 troops of all arms, but unless Gen. Buller is able to renew the attack, which is exceedingly doubtful, the British generals will be compelled for another fortnight or more to remain practically on the defensive.

### BLAMES THE PRESIDENT.

The Civil Service League Resolution Criticizing a Recent Order by Mr. McKinley.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 16.—The National Civil Service League Friday passed resolutions declaring the recent order of President McKinley withdrawing several thousand places from the classified service to be "the first unmistakable backward step taken by a federal administration since the civil service law was passed."

It declares that the injurious effects have already become apparent in widespread distrust of the president and the party in power. The continuation of the census bureau and Indian service under the spoils system is denounced. Congress is asked to remove the legislative restriction upon the consolidation of post offices, as "the withdrawal of fourth-class postmasterships from patronage would offer most formidable resistance to the remaining bulwarks of the spoils system." The league commends Gov. Roosevelt, of New York, and Gov. Walcott, of Massachusetts, for their efforts in behalf of civil service.

### Friends Gully.

Oreola, Ia., Dec. 16.—Mrs. Julia Crosby was called for trial Friday on the charge of murdering her husband, Nicholas Crosby, at their home at Woodbine by shooting him. She pleaded guilty. The shooting resulted from family differences and the case attracted wide attention. She will be sentenced, it is understood, to 20 years' imprisonment.

### Death of a Noted Shot.

Beloit, Wis., Dec. 16.—John A. Rubie, famous as a trap and wing shot, who has participated in all great shotgun contests of the country, died Friday.

### PANIC IN WALL STREET.

Prices of Stocks Tumble and a Trust Company and a Firm of Brokers Fail.

New York, Dec. 19.—Panic conditions developed on the stock exchange Monday afternoon with the imperative need of money developed by the violent contraction in values. Stocks were being thrown overboard without the slightest regard to the price they would bring and at distressing sacrifice of values. No end to the helplessness of the situation seemed in sight when in the last half hour of the market some \$10,000,000 was offered on the stock exchange by the concerted action of the clearing house banks to force the rate down to 6 per cent. without regard to the distracted bidding at higher rates which was being done by brokers for distressed operators. The collapse in the money rate checked the decline and drove the bears to cover. The recoveries produced by their urgent bidding were almost as violent as the declines had been, but the losses were by no means entirely retrieved.

The excitement continued to the end, with sentiment looking forward anxiously for the developments of another day. The seriousness of the crisis has called forth the best efforts of powerful financial interests, which are busy concerting measures to tide over the money difficulties which beset the stock market, and which by reason of their extent and the importance of the interests involved, threaten to affect the country's business interests unless obstacles are opposed.

So far as actual news was concerned there was a suspension by a newly organized trust company and by a firm of bankers and brokers which has figured as traders in stocks to an extent of some importance. Neither event in itself would have been sufficient to precipitate a crisis. But they were supplemented with a whole crop of wild rumors which spared no interest.

The reason for the widespread effect upon sentiment of the trust company's suspension was that it was one of a large number of institutions recently formed on similar lines and which have thrived upon the multiplying of securities incident to the industrial combinations which have been a feature of the past year. The securities of these combinations as a class have been in disfavor in Wall street for many weeks past.

Before the concerted relief by the clearing house banks the money rate leaped to 50, 100 and 125 per cent. Credible reports assert that 185 per cent was paid for money during the day. The official record of such a transaction was lost in the excitement. An idea of the severity of losses may be gained from a few specifications. Thus American Tobacco fell 2 1/2 points, Metropolitan 20 1/2, Peoples' Gas 14, Sugar 12 1/2. The most prominent and active railroad stocks in the whole list showed losses all the way from 4 to 9 points.

The suspension of the firm of Henry Allen & Co., bankers and brokers, was announced on the stock exchange at an early hour and soon afterward the Produce Exchange Trust Co. closed its doors.

The Produce Exchange Trust Co. was organized a couple of years ago with a capital of \$2,500,000. Its business was chiefly with merchants, tradesmen and corporations and it was also supposed to do some of the banking business of the Standard Oil Co. It had been designated by the banking department of the state as a legal depository for state moneys and municipal moneys, as well as for the funds of savings banks and state banks. Its assets are given as \$11,719,600, with liabilities of \$11,649,600.

It is claimed that the bank will pay creditors dollar for dollar.

### CROOKED BUSINESS.

Michigan's Military Board Is Alleged to be Involved in a Fake Sale of State Property.

Lansing, Mich., Dec. 19.—According to allegations made here Monday, based on results of the grand jury investigations the state military board is alleged to have sold, last July, to the "Illinois Supply Co." of Chicago, for \$10,000, absolutely new clothing, goods and equipments, estimated to have been inventoried at \$53,000. It is further alleged that what are alleged to be the same goods were soon afterward purchased by the board from the Henderson & Ames Manufacturing Co., of Kalamazoo.

It is alleged to be a fact that the "Illinois Supply Co." was a fake concern, created by persons interested with the Kalamazoo company for purposes only of the alleged sale.

It is stated that at the same meeting at which the board decided to sell these goods a resolution was adopted authorizing the quartermaster general to purchase an equipment of precisely the same class of goods, and that this was done at a cost of over \$60,000. The goods, it is alleged, were sold to the "Illinois Supply Co." without the company having seen them. A draft for \$10,500 was soon received and four carloads of goods were shipped from the state armory to Chicago. Addison C. Cobb, an employee of the Chicago Beach hotel, received them there and, without breaking the seals, re-shipped them to the Henderson-Ames Co. at Kalamazoo. This, it is claimed, is substantiated by shipping bills of the railroads. It is alleged that the goods were transferred to a warehouse in Kalamazoo, and later shipped back to Lansing, being largely the same goods which had been sold.

### A Riot in Chicago.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—A riot occurred Monday at Thirty-ninth street and Belmont avenue, where a strike of tunnel miners is in progress. Several non-union men emerging from the tunnel were assaulted by strikers and during the fight which followed several shots were fired and several men on both sides badly injured. Nine of the rioters were arrested.

### Is a Dead One.

Indianapolis, Dec. 19.—Crawford Fairbank of Terre Haute, who is at the head of the new strawboard combine, says that combine is practically a dead issue.

### THE HOUSE COMMITTEES.

Speaker Henderson Announces His Selections of Members—Who They are and Where They are Placed.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Speaker Henderson yesterday announced the committees of the house of representatives. The speaker preserved the custom of following precedent as to old members, leaving them in their old chairmanships and places, and gradually advancing them as vacancies occur. The important new chairmanships are those of Mr. Brosius, of Pennsylvania, chairman of banking and currency; Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, merchant marine and fisheries; Mr. Southard, of Ohio, coinage, and Mr. Cooper, of Wisconsin, the newly formed committee on insular affairs.

The democratic members receive fewer places than in the last congress, the larger democratic representation in this house compelling a reduction in the number of places for each. The most important committees are as follows:

Ways and Means—Payne, N. Y.; Dabzell, Pa.; Hopkins, Ill.; Grosvenor, O.; Russell, Conn.; Dooliver, Ia.; Steele, Ind.; Tawney, Minn.; McCall, Mass.; Long, Kan.; Richardson, Tenn.; Samuel M. Robertson, La.; Swanson, Va.; McClellan, N. Y.; Newlands, Nev.; Cooper, Tex.

Appropriations—Cannon, Ill.; Bingham, Pa.; Grout, Va.; Hemenway, Ind.; Barney, Wis.; Moody, Mass.; Pugh, Ky.; Van Voorhis, O.; McCleary, Minn.; Littauer, N. Y.; Livingston, Ga.; McRae, Ark.; Allen, Miss.; Bell, Col.; Pierce, Tenn.; Benton, Mo.; Taylor, Ala.

Judiciary—G. W. Ray, N. Y.; Jenkins, Wis.; Parker, N. J.; Overstreet, Ind.; Alexander, N. Y.; Warner, Ill.; Kerr, O.; Littlefield, Me.; Freer, W. Va.; Kahn, Cal.; Terry, Ark.; De Armond, Mo.; Lanham, Tex.; Elliott, S. C.; Underwood, Ala.; Smith, Ky.; Fleming, Ga.

Banking and Currency—Brosius, Pa.; Fowler, N. J.; Hill, Conn.; Prince, Ill.; Capron, R. I.; Lane, Ia.; Calderhead, Kan.; Overstreet, Ind.; Lovering, Mass.; Shattuc, O.; Cox, Tenn.; Stallings, Ala.; Briggs, N. Y.; Talbert, S. C.; Rhea, Ky.; Thayer, Mass.; Lewis, Ga.

Inter-State and Foreign Commerce—Heppner, of Iowa; Fletcher, Minn.; Sherman, N. Y.; Wanger, Pa.; Joy, Mo.; Corliss, Mich.; Stewart, N. J.; Barham, Cal.; Hawley, Tex.; Mann, Ill.; Lovering, Mass.; McAleer, Pa.; Davey, La.; Adamson, Ga.; Davis, Fla.; Muller, N. Y.; Shackelford, Mo.

Rivers and Harbors—Burton, O.; Reeves, Ill.; Dorener, W. Va.; Bishop, Mich.; Acheson, Pa.; Morris, Minn.; Alexander, N. Y.; Tongue, Ore.; Lawrence, Mass.; Davidson, Wis.; Catchings, Miss.; Lester, Ga.; Bankhead, Ala.; McColloch, Ark.; Berry, Ky.; Sparkman, Fla.; Ball, Tex.

Foreign Affairs—Hitt, Ill.; Adams, Pa.; Cousins, Iowa; W. A. Smith, Mich.; Heston, Minn.; Gillett, Mass.; Fowler, N. J.; Landis, Ind.; Clark, N. H.; Brown, O.; Dismore, Ark.; Clark, Mo.; Williams, Miss.; Berry, Ky.; Howard, Ga.; Burleson, Tex.; Seander, N. Y.

Military Affairs—Hull, Ia.; Marsh, Ill.; Ketcham, N. Y.; Brownlow, Tenn.; Parker, N. J.; Capron, R. I.; Stevens, Minn.; Dick, O.; Mondell, Wyo.; Esch, Wis.; Sulzer, N. Y.; Cox, Tenn.; Lentz, O.; Jeff, Ill.; Slayden, Tex.; Broussard, La.; Pedro Perez, N. M.

Naval Affairs—Boutelle, Me.; Foss, Ill.; Dayton, W. Va.; Loudenslager, N. J.; Hawley, Tex.; Butler, Pa.; Butler, R. I.; Mudd, Md.; Watson, Ind.; Metcalf, Cal.; Cummings, N. Y.; Meyer, La.; Tate, Ga.; Rixey, Va.; Kitchen, N. C.; Vandiver, Mo.; Wheeler, Ky.

The chairmen of other committees are as follows:

Post Offices and Post Roads—E. F. Loud, California.

Public Lands—J. F. Lacey, Iowa.

Indian Affairs—J. S. Sherman, New York.

Territories—W. S. Knox, Massachusetts.

Insular Affairs—H. A. Cooper, Wisconsin.

Railways and Canals—Charles A. Chickering, New York.

Manufactures—G. W. Farris, Indiana.

Elections, No. 1—Robert W. Taylor, Ohio.

Elections, No. 2—Walter L. Weaver, Ohio.

Elections, No. 3—William S. Mesick, Michigan.

Education—G. A. Grow, Pennsylvania.

Labor—J. J. Gardner, New Jersey.

Militia—B. F. Marshall, Illinois.

Patents—W. S. Kerr, Ohio.

Pensions—H. C. Loudenslager, New Jersey.

### A STORM-TOSSED MARKET.

The New York Cotton Exchange Is the Theater of Panicky Scenes.

New York, Dec. 19.—Almost unprecedented excitement prevailed Monday on the cotton exchange. Seldom, if ever, in the history of the institution has the volume of business been so great. No official record of sales was made, but it is estimated that the amount of cotton traded in came near reaching the million-bale mark, the heaviest previous total having been something like 800,000. There was a perfect avalanche of selling orders. The opening was easy at a decline of from 4 to 6 points. From the closing figures of Saturday the market, as shown by the weakest interval, broke 30 to 35 points, at which time a condition bordering on panic prevailed. The original cause of the collapse was the heavy selling movement started by Wall street interests.

### American Successes.

Manila, Dec. 19.—Gen. Lawton started last night from Manila with cavalry and infantry to San Mateo, where Geronimo has 3,000 insurgents. Gen. Grant has nearly cleared Zamboanga province. He discovered hidden in Subig bay a steamer of 180 tons. She is supposed to be the vessel Aguineldo was keeping ready for his escape. Capt. Layson routed an insurgent band in Zamboanga province, killing several officers. Maj. Smith with three companies of infantry captured another band of guerrillas which were terrorizing a large section north. The troops killed several of the band.

### PORTER RUNS A RAILROAD.

All the Officials Were Abroad and He Was the Only One to Do It.

Senator Dewey does not tell how the following came to be reported to him, but it is such a good story that he uses it continually in dismissing dignified bores or influential beggars from his office. The senator was on his summer vacation when a pompous little man called to see him and encountered the colored porter who guards the outer gates of the Dewey sanctum.

"I want to see Chasuncey Dewey," said the little man.

"You can't, sah. He's gone to Europe, sah."

"Well, then, I'll see his secretary."

"Sorry, sah, but Mistah Duval, he's gone to Europe."

"Then I'll see Cornelius Vanderbilt."

"He's in Newport, sah."

"Well, is W. K. Vanderbilt in?"

"No, sah. He's gone home to Newport, too."

"That so?" Then I'll see the vice president of the road."

"He's in Albany, sah."

"How about the second vice president?"

"He's down to Long Branch, sah."

"Is the superintendent in?"

"He's out inspection 'd road, sah."

"How about General Passenger Agent Daniels?"

"He went away to Cape May dis mawnin'."

"Who in thunder is running this road, anyway?" shouted the little man, getting very red in the face.

"Well, I'll tell you, boss," replied the ebullient attendant, "dis yere road jes' runs hitself, sah, an' dere han' nobody need round to look after things but me."—Saturday Evening Post.

### IMPORTANCE OF CORN.

The Colonel Made It Plain That the Golden Grain Was Absolutely Indispensable.

"Yes," said Col. Stilwell, "everything is progressing nicely with the people in my part of the country, I am happy to say. It is a fine region," said the young girl. "It is. One of the most salubrious on earth. It is there that the great golden orb as it swings on its diurnal path across the sky pauses to send his tenderest messages across the sunbeams which bind him to the earth."

"You don't say so!" exclaimed the young girl. "Is something like wireless telegraphy, isn't it?"

"The colonel looked a little annoyed, and he hastily exclaimed: 'It must be perfectly lovely there!'

"It is. The only gold we ask for is that which is coined from the sunlight into great ears of yellow corn. That's what my neighbors and I used to prize most. My sympathies were never before so deeply moved. There was a drought. The corn crop was a failure."

"It must have been dreadful. Still, you could send elsewhere."

"I could. So could the other comparatively well-to-do people. But I was thinking of the poor. I tell you, if it hadn't been for the charity of a number of charitable citizens, myself among them, I have no doubt that a great many of those unfortunate would have died of thirst."—Washington Star.

### HE WASN'T SUPERSTITIOUS.

And Yet He Was Bound He Wouldn't Travel Without His Lucky Coin.

Just as he was starting on a short business journey his wife called him aside. "William," she said, earnestly, "don't think of going to-day. Put it off till to-morrow or next week. Something awful will happen if you disregard my advice, and I know it."

"What's the matter with you? Been having dreams or consulting one of these second-sight 'franks'?" "No, dear, but this is Friday, and it is simply inviting trouble to make a start on Friday."

"Oh, pah! Will you never get over such foolishness? What's the day got to do with it? Honest, it makes me tired—this everlasting superstition and belief in signs. If I paid attention to all such things we'd starve, for I'd have no time to do business. Put all that out of your head, little one. I've had just as good luck on Friday as on any other day, and the only serious accident I ever had was on Monday. I can't disarrange all my plans just to humor a whim. I'll come back as safe and sound as I leave. Good-by." He went, and she sat in the bay window looking just as discomfited as though her worst fears had been realized. At the end of 20 minutes she saw her husband hurrying toward the house, carrying his hat in his hand and mopping his forehead. She ran to the door, pale with apprehension. "What is it, William? Tell me, quick. I can bear anything as long as you are all right."

"Where's that old blue vest? That lucky dime of mine is in one of the pockets